AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently amended) A method for creating a protected region of a data storage device of a computational device, <u>the protected region being a region within which data cannot be accessed without proper authorization,</u> operating system data representing the operating system of the computational device being stored on the data storage device, the method comprising the steps of:

maintaining a record of operating system data accessed by the computational device after a reset of the computational device and until predetermined functionality of the operating system becomes available; and

establishing ~~a~~ protected and unprotected ~~region~~ <u>regions</u> of the data storage device, <u>the step of establishing</u> further comprising the steps of:

storing a copy of the operating system data recorded during the step of maintaining in the unprotected region of the data storage device; and

storing ~~a copy of any~~ <u>protected</u> data ~~stored on the data storage device~~ in the protected region of the data storage device<u>, wherein the protected data comprises the operating system data and any other data to which it is desired to prevent access without proper authorization</u>.

2. (New) A method as in Claim 1, wherein the step of storing protected data in the protected region of the data storage device comprises storing all data stored on the data storage device, other than the copy of operating system data stored in the unprotected region of the data storage device, in the protected region of the data storage device.

3. (New) A method as in Claim 1, wherein the predetermined functionality comprises enablement of communication with the data storage device.

4. (New) A method as in Claim 3, wherein the predetermined functionality comprises enablement of user interface functionality and enablement of token support functionality.

5. (New) A method as in Claim 4, wherein the predetermined functionality comprises enablement of specification of one or more data protection parameters.

6. (New) Apparatus for creating a protected region of a data storage device of a computational device, the protected region being a region within which data cannot be accessed without proper authorization, operating system data representing the operating system of the computational device being stored on the data storage device, the apparatus comprising:

means for maintaining a record of operating system data accessed by the computational device after a reset of the

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computational device and until predetermined functionality of the operating system becomes available; and

    means for establishing protected and unprotected regions of the data storage device, the means for establishing further comprising:

        means for storing a copy of the operating system data recorded during the step of maintaining in the unprotected region of the data storage device; and

        means for storing protected data in the protected region of the data storage device, wherein the protected data comprises the operating system data and any other data to which it is desired to prevent access without proper authorization.

7.   (New) A computer readable medium or media encoded with one or more computer programs and/or data structures for creating a protected region of a data storage device of a computational device, the protected region being a region within which data cannot be accessed without proper authorization, operating system data representing the operating system of the computational device being stored on the data storage device, the one or more computer programs and/or data structures comprising:

        instructions and/or data for maintaining a record of operating system data accessed by the computational device after a reset of the computational device and until predetermined functionality of the operating system becomes available; and

instructions and/or data for establishing protected and unprotected regions of the data storage device, the instructions and/or data for establishing further comprising:

instructions and/or data for storing a copy of the operating system data recorded during the step of maintaining in the unprotected region of the data storage device; and

instructions and/or data for storing protected data in the protected region of the data storage device, wherein the protected data comprises the operating system data and any other data to which it is desired to prevent access without proper authorization.